basis of the proposal submitted by the concerned State/UT Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Moreover, at present, legal status of forest land can not be changed due to the ban imposed by the Supreme Court of India on dereservation of forest land *vide* their order dated 13-11-2000 in W.P. No. 337 of 1995.

Mobile diagnostic labs

*176. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mobile diagnostic labs which are functioning in different States of the country;

(b) whether the lack of modern diagnostic technologies at the rural level leads to the death of millions of people, especially women; and

(c) whether Government plan to have a big project with the help of NGOs to create a network of these mobile labs fitted with Ultrasound, Catscan and other facilities?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) The Central Government has no scheme under which mobile diagnostic laboratories are being run in rural areas. As per reports received from several major States, they too do not have any scheme for this purpose. Information about the number of mobile diagnostic labs functioning in different States of the country is, therefore, not available.

(b) There is no available data linking the lack of modern diagnostic technologies at the rural level leading to the death of millions of people especially women. In Community Health Centres and even some Primary Health Centres and First Referral Units, laboratory with technicians are available to test blood, urine etc. relevant for ante natal care of expectant mothers. However, diagnostic technologies such as well-equipped pathology laboratories and ultrasound machines are available at the District hospital level, and a CT scan is available at many of the tertiary hospitals. women requiring these investigations are referred to a higher level of health care where these facilities are available.

(c) No, Sir.